

Homeowners Guide to Gutters

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Chapter 1: Why Gutters Are So Important

Although the humble gutter goes underappreciated as an element of a home, they are an essential part of preventing serious property damage.

Without gutters you may find water in your basement after a heavy rain. Even if the water stays outside your home, if the flow of rain from your roof is not directed into gutters and downspouts and away from your foundation, your home may sustain structural damage. Water pooling around the foundation, erosion problems, or water coming into the house, either in the basement or the roof, can all be signals that a home needs a new gutter system.

What You Need to Know About Rain Gutters

Rain gutters are used to redirect water away from the home. They capture roof run-off and then direct the water into downspouts. The placement of the downspout should ensure that the water runs away from the home. It should also run away from other areas where a high flow of water can cause damage, such as sidewalks, driveways, or your neighbor's foundation.

It is important to have an expert install your gutters and downspouts. Someone inexperienced with water control issues may inadvertently create new problems for you, your neighbors, or your town by misdirecting the flow of water.

Are Your Gutters Working the Way They Should?

If you have existing gutters, but aren't sure they are working the way they should, look for warning signs on and around your home.

Mold or mildew on your siding or eves is a sign that the water may not be getting far enough away from your home. If water flows over the edge of your gutter rather than running down the channel and to the downspout, there are probably leaves or other debris blocking the gutter.

Gutter Care and Maintenance

Even if your home doesn't have trees that drop leaves and limbs on your roof, your gutters need regular maintenance. As they age, they may begin pulling away from the house, which interrupts the smooth flow of water. Once water begins pooling in the gutters it will either overflow and create erosion issues close to your home's foundation or push its way under the roofing material, potentially creating leaks in your roof.

Have an expert, like the ones at Pro Roofing & Siding come out and inspect your gutters. We can clean them if necessary, check that they are in good repair, and give you confidence that your home is in shape to weather the wettest weather.



Chapter 2: When Do Your Gutters Need To Be Replaced

The rain gutters are a smaller feature on residential properties but are responsible for allowing all the water to drain off the roof. As a homeowner, it can be easy to neglect the gutters throughout the year because they're often out of sight. However, It's important to know the different signs to look for when it's time to replace the gutters to ensure there's proper drainage.

As a homeowner, there are a few areas to inspect to determine if your rain gutters have reached the end of their lifespan and are no longer reliable.

Consider the Age

The age of your rain gutters can make it easier to determine when to replace the materials. Most rain gutters come with the house and last an average of 20 years. If you have copper rain gutters, you can expect them to last at least 50 years. You may also notice some parts of the home are rotting because the rain gutters have leaks, which causes the siding to have contact with the water.

There may even be mildew that is present because of too much moisture that fails to dry. The moisture can also enter the basement when it accumulates and occurs when the gutters are damaged. Gutter replacement is the best step to take to remedy the issue to prevent extensive repairs in the future.

Signs of Wear

Perform a thorough inspection of the rain gutters to determine if they look damaged or worn. Test out how well they work by adding water to the gutters with a hose. The water should move at a steady pace and flow well without leaking near the top or bottom. Extra gutters may need to be installed if you spot areas where the water is flowing into your flower beds.

You may notice that cracks are present in some of the materials, which means they're not doing their job and are defective. Smaller cracks may also be present, which aren't always easy to spot unless a storm arrives and you notice areas where water is leaking. Small cracks are easy to repair, but larger cracks are a sign it's time to replace the materials.

Stress on the Seams

One of the most common areas where stress occurs on rain gutters is on the seams. You may notice the materials are separated, and leaks are present. Consider replacing the structure with seamless gutters to avoid the same types of issues in the future. The materials may also have signs of peeling, which occurs when the parts have been exposed to too much moisture over time.

Repairs don't typically fix this issue, and most experts will tell you gutter replacement is necessary. There may also be areas on the gutters where the paint had eroded or faded.

There may even be a lot of rust present on the materials where leaks occur due to water leaking through the materials. Not only will this affect the curb appeal of your home, but it can cause the metal parts to break down over time. Aside from stress on the seams, the gutters likely need to be replaced if dents are present on the materials, which can affect how well the water flows through when it snows or rains. This can occur when a tree branch has contact with the rain gutters in the middle of a storm and can lead to the water spilling out. In most cases, replacing the entire structure can be the best option.

Sloped Gutters

Many people don't realize that when the gutters are sloping and sagging, it's a sign they are no longer structurally sound. This can lead to too much water accumulating and spilling out of the gutters. Stains may also be present on the outside of the house, specifically if rust is present. The gutters are also not working correctly if signs of mildew are present near the foundation.

Knowing how to perform an inspection of your rain gutters will give you insight into when it's time to replace the structure. Although it may be an investment, it can protect the quality of the materials on your home and prevent flooding issues from occurring on the property throughout the year.

Chapter 2: When Do Your Gutters Need To Be Replaced

Rain gutters are one of the main features of your home that are responsible for helping water rain off of your roof any time it rains or snow melts. They help prolong the lifespan of the roofing materials and require thorough cleaning to remove leaves and debris that accumulates every few months. If you want to avoid spending any time cleaning out your rain gutters each season, there are a few tips to follow to make it easier to maintain your property.

Install a Guard System

Guard systems are also effective to install on your existing gutters because they block leaves or twigs from entering the channels. This product can last for several decades and will prevent obstructions from developing in the gutters over time, especially in climates with harsh weather conditions. Mesh materials can also be used to block any items from entering the gutters each season.

Knowing a few ways to avoid cleaning out your rain gutters is essential to saving time and energy when it comes to maintaining your property. It will also allow your roof to have proper drainage to reduce the risk of leaks that can develop over time.

Install New Gutters

The design and function of your rain gutters may require you to remove debris that accumulates each season. Installing a one-piece seamless gutter system can limit how many leaves and twigs enter the gutters, even in the middle of harsh storms and strong winds.

The design of this type of gutter system blocks materials and different elements from settling into the system. This can promote proper water flow and won't cause the gutters to have blockages that can cause the water to back up onto the roof. There will be a lack of obstructions present, and all the water will be directed away from the home for added convenience.

Compared to traditional rain gutters, this type of product is more advanced and doesn't have a lot of parts, which means there's also less of a risk of leaks developing over time. There aren't any seams present, which creates a cleaner look and doesn't allow water to start to drip out over time as the materials age. The pieces aren't at risk of coming loose or preventing the water from moving away from the roof.

Trim Your Trees

Trimming the trees in your yard and maintaining your landscaping is a practical way of preventing a large mess from accumulating in your gutters.

If your trees are maintained, they won't blow around leaves or have twigs that fall off in the middle of a storm. You can also cut back branches that are in proximity of the gutters and are at risk of having contact with the roof. Nearby trees should be several feet away from the home to prevent any leaves or branches from ending up on the roof or in the gutters. Your landscaping should be maintained every two to four weeks, depending on the season. Overgrown areas can make it more difficult to keep the gutters cleaned over time.

Cleaning off your roof of leaves and debris that accumulate after heavy storms and high winds can also prevent everything from ending up in your gutters. The roof should also be inspected for loose shingles or missing tiles, which are prone to fall into the gutters if the roof needs repairs.

It's also important to check for critters that may be present on the roof and want to find shelter. Many types of insects and small animals attempt to make a home in the gutters, which can lead to issues and create blockages.



Chapter 4: Woodstock Gutters

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Half Round Gutters

6" Half Round Gutters in custom lengths as needed.

We carry all necessary half round parts for your convenience.

Colors: White, Bronze, Copper, Musket Brown.





K-Style

Armour Lock

Fit's 5&6" Gutters

- Mesh Coating
- Black Only
- "Spring Like" action
- No screws necessary
- Fits in Nose of Gutter
- 4' Covers (48")
- 100' per Box (25 pieces)

ShurFlo

- Shur Flo fits snugly to the top of your gutters.
- The low profile make it invisible from the ground.
- Comes with a 20 Year Warranty
- Fits 5" or 6" Gutters
- Each piece is 4' Long





5" White, Black or Mill Finish (200' - 50pcs) 6" White, Black or Mill Finish (200' - 50pcs)

Mill Finish Drop-In Screens

- 5" Screens
- Box of 25 4' Screens
- 6" Screens Box of 25 4' Screens
- 7" Screens
- 200' ft Boxes Available





About Us

At Pro Roofing & Siding, our customers' needs are of the utmost importance. As a locally owned and operated company, we believe that it is our duty to help the development of our communities in the metro Atlanta area.

Our commitment to our friends and neighbors pushes us to strive for excellence in everything we do, and our passion is transmitted to the quality of our work. Moreover, our comprehensive expertise in exterior home improvements will provide a boost to your property's value and curb appeal. We offer a wide variety of services to either residential or commercial properties.











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